

GRAND LODGE FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE®

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CHUCK CANTERBURY NATIONAL PRESIDENT

2 November 2006

JAMES O. PASCO, JR. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Honorable Stevan Pearce House of Representatives , Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Pearce,

I am writing to you on behalf of the membership of the Fraternal Order of Police, to advise you of our support for your bill, H.R. 6155, the "CLEAN Town Act."

Drug abuse and drug dealing is a scourge in communities throughout the nation. While drug abuse is a terrible, those who prey on those individuals by dealing in the toxins which keep them addicted, are worse. Though tough laws have been enacted over the years to keep these individuals locked up and away from our citizens, especially our children, many of these individuals return to their criminal ways once they are released from prison. Rates of recidivism are especially high amongst pushers who deal crack cocaine and methamphetamines, perhaps the biggest drug threat our nation faces today.

Your bill would create a registry for convicted drug dealers to sign up and notify the communities they reside in that they were convicted of peddling illicit substances. Furthermore, it would provide incentives for drug dealers to clear their name by turning in other drug dealers who are currently active in selling illicit substances in the community. It would also create a national registry which would allow communities to track drug dealers and thereby alert their communities.

Like Megan's Law, which has successfully utilized sex offender registries to keep child molesters away from our children, this bill will enable our communities to identify pushers before they move in and thus safeguard our children. It is an important step in keeping these predators away from our children and our communities and it upholds our citizen's right to know who is living in their communities.

On behalf of the more than 324,000 members of the Fraternal Order of Police, thank you for your leadership on this issue. Please do not hesitate to contact me, or Executive Director Jim Pasco, through our Washington office if we can be of any further assistance.

Chuck Canterbury National President

Sincerely.